(ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ. ಜೆ. ಮುಕ್ಕಣ್ಣಪ್ಪ)

ಫೀ ಕೊಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಕೇಳಿವ್ರೀರಿ. ಒಂದು ಗಾಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಬ್ಬ ಮನುಷ್ಯ ಕುಳಿತು ಕೊಂಡು ಅದನ್ನು ಇನ್ನೊಬ್ಬ ಮನುಷ್ಯ ಎಳೆದು ಕೊಂಡು ಹೊಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೆ, ಅಂಥದಕ್ಕೆ ಪರವಾನಗಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೀವೆಂದು ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಫೀಸ್ ಮಾತ್ರ ಕೊಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೊರಟಿರುವ ನೀವು ಮಾನವನಿಗೆ ಇರುವ ಆತ್ಮ ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೆ ಧಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಹಾದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊರಟಿದ್ದೀರಿ.... ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಪಕ್ಷದ ಧೋರಣೆ ಏನು ಎಂದು ಕೇಳುತ್ತೇನೆ.

"ಕಣ್ಣಿದ್ದೂ ಕುರುಡರಯ್ಯ, ಕಾರದ್ದೂ ಕುಂಟರಯ್ಯ, ಕಿವಿಯಿದ್ದರೂ ಕಿವುಡರಯ್ಯ..."

ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದಹಾಗೆ, ಇನ್ನೊಬ್ಬನ ಮೇಲೆ ಕುಳಿತು ಮಜಾ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಬೆವರುಸುರಿಸಿ ಗಾಡಿಯನ್ನು ಎಳೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗುವವನನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ ಸುಖ ಪಡತಕ್ಕ ಜನ, ಎಷ್ಟು ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸುಖೀ ರಾಜ್ಯವನ್ನು ಈ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಟ್ಟಬಲ್ಲರಿ ಎಂದು ಕೇಳುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಇವರೆಲ್ಲ ಮನುಷ್ಯರು, ಬೇರೆ ಜನ ಎಳೆಯುತ್ತಾರೆಂದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ. ನಿಜ, ಬೇರೆ ಜನ ಎಳೆದರೆ ಮನುಷ್ಯನಾಪವನು ನ್ಯರ್ಗಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಾನೆ ಅಥವಾ ನರಕದ ಬಾಗಿಲಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಿ ಬಾಗಿಲು ತಟ್ಟುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಅವಕ್ಕೊಕ್ಕೆ ಉಪಾತ್ತವಾದ ಧೇಯಗಳನ್ನಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಶ್ರೀಮಾನ್ ಚನ್ನಬಸಪ್ಪನವರೇ ಜನತೆಗೆ ಅನ್ಯಾಯ ಮಾಡತಕ್ಕ ಈ ವಿಧೇಯಕವನ್ನು ತಾವು ತರಬಾರದಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇದರಿಂದ ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ಯಾಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಂಥ ಕಾನೂನನ್ನು ತರುವ ಮುಂಚೆ ದೀರ್ಘವಾಗಿ ಯೋಚನೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈಗಲಾದರೂ ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ವಿಚಾರಮಾಡಿ ಇಂಥ ಕಾನೂನನ್ನು ಶಾಸನಕಡಿತಕೆ ಏರಿಸಿ.

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಯಾವ ವಿಷಯ ಬಂದರೂ, ಮದ್ರಾಸ್, ಬೊಂಬಾಯಿ, ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ, ಗುಜರಾತ್ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತೀರಿ. ಇದು ಹೇಗಿದೆ ಎಂದರೆ ಮಾರ್ಕೆಟ್ ಜಾಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಡಬ್ಬಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತ ಹೇಳುವಂತೆ ಇದೆ. ತಾವು ಈ ರೀತಿ ಇತರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಕತೆ ತೋರಿಸುವುದರ ಬದಲು ಇತರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ತಾವೇ ಮಾದರಿಯಾಗಿರುವಂತೆ ಏಕೆ ಮಾಡುವಾರದು. ಇದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಮನುಷ್ಯರು ಎಳೆಯುವ ಗಾಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮೈಸೂರು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೂಡಲೇ ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—The Hon'ble Member seems to have forgotten that at the time when the same remark was being made by the Opposition, I did say that the matter was worth being considered and that I would consider it.

ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ. ಜೆ. ಮುಕ್ಕಣ್ಣಪ್ಪ.—ದೇವರು ತಮಗೆ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯದು ಮಾಡಲಿ.

Mr. CHAIRMAN.—The Hon'ble Member will continue to-morrow We will now take up half-an-hour discussion. Sri V. S. Patil.

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6-00 P.M.

## HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION ON Q. NO. 201 REGARDING DEATHS DUE TO FOOD POISONING IN BELGAUM.

† Sri V. S. PATIL.—Sir, my question No. 201 related to food poisoning matter which occurred at Belgaum and in which according to the answer given by the Government, 91 persons were affected and 9 persons died. To my question whether Government have traced the causes

of food poisoning, the answer given is No. I should like to say that it is a case of food poisoning occurred in a locality which is inhabited by the Scheduled caste people-Mahood (?). It was in a festival given by one of the Mahood (?) in a religious and private function in his family. All those persons who had participated in this feast were affected and 9 deaths were recorded on the next day. So, this question relates not only to the case of food poisoning but also to the social status of the persons who have already suffered. Had it been a case relating to any higher classes or community, I think the Government would not have said that the cause or the sources of this food poisoning were not traced. Sir, I want to bring to your kind notice that when a similar case of food poisoning occurred in Kerala, the Government have taken the trouble to trace the causes of poison not only in the food that was served, but even the sources and the conveyance and even the boats from which this particular food material was transported from Bombay were subjected to exmination. But because this case related to the down-trodden people that is the Scheduled castes, nobody appears to have taken care to trace the cause or the source of poisoning. It is a case where nearly 100 people were affected which is speaking most heart-rending. But simply it occurred in a community which is neglected, the Government. Officials have also neglected to trace the real case for food poisoning. These deaths had occurred at Belgaum, headquarters of a district where so many facilities are available for investigation, was it not possible for the Government to send the viera for chemical analysis and trace the cause of the poison which was served to those people ? I must say that Governmeut have completely neglected their duty so far as these deaths are concerned. They should have traced the facts whether poison was created at the dinner ; when the food was in its raw stage or whether it was created when it was cooked. Nothing has been said by the Government as yet. It is no use saying that we have issued a Press Note and press releases and press conferences on these matters, because these press conferences are not attended by a single member of the S. C. which is a down-trodden class. It is an illiterate class. They are ignorant people ; and the steps alleged to have been taken by the people are completely beside the point. That is why I have asked for a discussion on this point. Had this matter been entrusted to the police for investigation, I feel sure that the real causes would have been easily traced. As the matter was handled by the public health department, they could not trace the real facts of the case and these 9 murders have gone unheeded. This is my first charge against the Government.

That is not the only thing. These figures relate to people affected in Belgaum city as such. But the relations of these persons from the surrounding four or five villages had also come there and they were also affected by it. But those figures are not included in this. They were not taken into account and they were not traced at all. So, not only the figures are 91 and 9 respectively, but many more were affected by this particular incident. That matter is also not traced by the

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Government and it is because of the low status of the particular community, all this has happened.

There is antoher aspect for which I have raised this discussion, we have to see sir, that such mass food poisoning must be avoided at any cost, it may be any community or it may be any part of the country. For that purpose, it is quite essential to trace the sources of this particular kind of poison that was responsible for the death of human-being. Government ought to have traced the origin of the cases of this food-poisoning. If the Government is unable to trace it, it is a sorry affair and if they say that they could not trace the causes, it is really humbug: Government, at that rate, does not deserve to rule the country if they are unable to trace and investigate even such small incidents.

The next point which I should be like to make out Sir is that immediately after this, all the grain was sold away in the shop. That had been furnished in answer to (*e*): "wheat has been sold" "no poison could be detected on chemical analysis." Sir, this particular shop belonged to a Co-operative Bank and that bank in turn belonged to a community which is hated in this State and for that reason, they had supplied wheat. It was supplied by Government. It was distributed through a Co-operative Society and that wheat was sold. The impression was created that against particular shop and there was a feeling that it would be dangerous for anybody to buy anything there; and this shop had to suffer at least for six months because of the action of the police. When that wheat was sold away, was it not the duty of the police to find out whether there was poision or not? Whether wheat that was supplied by the Government themselves had been spoiled or not. Was it not the duty of the Government. Officers to declare it in that city that shop had nothing to do with the food poison? They have done nothing at all. Why? The reason is, that shop belonged to a particular community which is hated by the officials of the State.

These are the two aspects which I should like to the bring to the notice of this Hon'ble House to show that the Government of the State is partial to a community in its outlook and when this particular community is affected, they will never raise their little finger to trace the cause of their grievance. This is the way in which we are being ruled. That is the reason why we are trying to get out of this State and have better and equal treatment in Maharashtra.

Sri K. K. HEGDE (Minister for Health).—Sir, I heard my friends elaborate representation as regards food poisoning cases which occurred in Belgaum which happened on 8-1-61 (?) He has accused Government and it is his birth right. And he wants to make these arguments against the Government and use it as a weapon in the coming elections.

Sri V. S. PATIL.—This was in June last.

Sri K. K. HEGDE.—May be, when it is brought in this shape and accusations are made against the Government that they are partisan, I should say that. Probably he did not say in simple words that he belongs

to Maharashtra Ekikarana Samiti, because he feels that because he belongs to that Samiti. Government hates him. I must tell him that it wasnot the intention of the Government. I may assure the Hon'ble friend that the Medical Department has nothing of this partisanship which he is attributing and they have done everything possible in this regard. It is said that 93 persons were admitted to the hospital and all except nine are stated to have recovered because of the best treatment that was given there. Even the police did come to the rescue of the affected persons and disposed of all the materials that was supposed to have been used for dinner in Fakirappa Nagappa Lambani (?).

Sir, he said that things would have been better if the victims had belonged to any other community. I do not think that Government had any idea of partiality among the different sections of the citizens of the State. One may belong to the Scheduled cast or one may belong to the Brahmin caste, Government have never made a distinction. I know that the Government have done their best in treating these cases I think from out of 93 persons, 84 persons have been properly treated, I think my Hon'ble friend would agree that we have never made any distinction.

As regards detection of poison, in many cases when we have detected poison and found out the origin. In this particular case possibly it was not possible, but that does not mean that any malpractice was involved. I do not think that every case that has been sent to the Government analyse or the Pathological Department has been detected successfully The Government analyst and the Pathological Department were out able to detect any poison in the visera contents. Any way, the Police Department have taken up the necessary action. The Government agencies have gone to their rescue and they have also provided some grains to the families of the people who have suffered and died on this score.

He has also commented on the Press Conferences and Circulars. We have tried to do our best and atleast to prevent any further instances of this nature, the Government have thought it worth while educating the public and issued circulars to all the people concerned, so that in future atleast such things should be avoided by asking them to have the utensils or vessels properly cleaned and tinned. Necessary action has also been taken to prevent such occurrences hereafter.

In these circumstances, I do not think Government have in any way failed in their duty to treat such cases or to prevent such occurrences in future. I think the Hon'ble Member will now atleast agree that the Government had the best of intentions and they hed no idea of discrimination against any caste or against groups as he sought to make out.

Sir, he also wanted to accuse the Government for the supply of materials. Even there, Government did not hesitate to seize these articles and send them for examination. If the laboratory analyst had given any

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definite proof of poison. I think Government would have seized all these things and they would have even paid back all the money.

With these remarks, I think my Hon'ble friend Sri V. S. Patil will be satisfied with the action taken by the Government and at least will not make this as a weapon in the coming elections.

Mr. CHAIRMAN.—The House will now rise and meet to-morrow at 1 P.M.

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*The House adjourned at Twenty Minutes past Six of the Clock to meet again at* 1 P.M. *the on Thursday the* 16*th November* 1961.

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